

NEWS FROM

KHEAA—Alabama

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Financial Aid Tip of the Month, May 2008

Alabama Mentor is a valuable resource for college-bound students

Looking for a one-stop site to research colleges and careers? AlabamaMentor.org can be used by students as early as the eighth-grade to research colleges and careers. The site contains sections on planning for college, selecting a school, paying for college and choosing a career. Students can also set up **free** accounts that will let them apply to colleges online.

Haven't picked out a college? A search function matches schools to the students' choice of a major, school size and other factors. Students will also find a comparison chart of Alabama colleges that shows enrollment, student to faculty ratios, costs and other factors. In addition, Alabama Mentor lets users search up to 10 individual colleges' websites at a time.

Need money for college? Alabama Mentor offers free scholarship searches to find financial aid programs that match students' interests, abilities and backgrounds.

College still a few years away? The college planning section of Alabama Mentor has checklists that show students in grades 8 through 12 what they need to be doing to prepare for college. Starting with their junior year, Alabama Mentor provides a month-by-month list of actions college-bound students should take. The college planning section also lets students who have set up free accounts keep track of their courses and grades as they go through high school.

For more information about financial aid and college planning, visit www.AlabamaMentor.org; write the Alabama Student Loan Program, 100 North Union Street, Suite 308, Montgomery, AL 36104-3761; or call 334-265-9720, toll free (800) 721-9720.